



OFFICE OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS APPOINTMENTS

G/5 Ground Floor, 1 Horse Guards Road, London SW1A 2HQ

Telephone: 020 7271 0842

Email: acoba@acoba.gsi.gov.uk

Website: <http://acoba.independent.gov.uk>

HR Resourcing and Talent
BIS

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PROFESSOR SIR ADRIAN SMITH

The Advisory Committee on Business Appointments has considered Sir Adrian Smith's application for permission to accept a full-time appointment as the Vice-Chancellor of the University of London when his fixed-term contract comes to an end on 31 August 2012.

When considering this application, the Committee noted the inward-facing nature of Sir Adrian's new role, his previous association with the University as its deputy Vice Chancellor and his lengthy experience in academic administration before joining the Civil Service. It also took into account the detailed information that he and the department provided with regard to his lack of involvement in policy which would have had an impact on his new employer.

The Committee recommended that the application be approved subject to the condition that, for two years from his last day of service, he should not become personally involved in lobbying UK government on behalf of his new employer. The Business Appointment Rules define lobbying in the following way: "Lobbying in this context means that the former civil servant should not engage in communication with Government - including Ministers, special advisers and officials - with a view to influencing a Government decision or policy in relation to their own interests, or the interests of the organisation by which they are employed, or to whom they are contracted".

The Prime Minister accepted this advice.

I should be grateful if you would ensure that we are informed as soon as Sir Adrian take up this appointment, or, if earlier, when it is announced that he will do so (I enclose a form for convenience). We shall otherwise not be able to deal with any enquiries, since we do not release information about appointments which have not been taken up or announced, and this could lead to a false assumption being made about whether he had complied with the Rules. Similarly, I should be grateful if you would inform us if he proposes to extend or otherwise change his role with the University of London, as, depending on the circumstances, it may be necessary for him to make a fresh application.

Once the appointment has been publicly announced or taken up, we will publish details of this letter on the Committee's website, and include the main details of the appointment, together with the Advisory Committee's advice on it and the date on which it was taken up, in both the regularly updated consolidated list on the website and in the next annual report.

ROGER SAMPSON